

Guiseley Junior FC - AGM 2021 - Treasurer Report (Mark Stitson)

Reminder: Guiseley Junior FC - Financial Objectives

Ensure club remains financially secure

- Cash holding in place
- More control on costs
- Income collected earlier to invest ahead of the season with certainty
- Better coaching provision
- More facilities time
- Improved training and match provision - increase proportion of all-weather pitches (AWP) to ensure more playing time

1. Reminder: what we said in the Treasurer report for 2020:-

- *Pitch and training costs continue to increase, and have done consistently for 5 years - therefore whilst the club will hold membership fees for 20-21, and we will budget a loss overall, we will need to look at membership fee levels for season 21-22.*
- *Income will reduce in 20-21 as we will not be able to raise funds through a "bag pack" at Morrisons whilst social distancing is in place or any other social events.*
- *We would really like to provide "pre-season" training slots for the longer term, i.e. start mid-August every season where possible - this is an aim for future years if we can continue to make progress and keep manager support as noted below.*

2. Summary of 20-21 season

- Unfortunately a second season heavily impacted by Covid-19 - the impact on many volunteer organisations (including sports clubs) will not really be known until we finally come out of this situation.
- As a club we have fortunately got to a position over the last few years where we will be able to continue/extend the provision we have been able to achieve - at a time when many will need to cut back.
- This season we had a stop/start impact due to lockdowns, but were able to extend all of our facilities to the end of June/start of July.
- Overall from a financial perspective we will report **net income (income less expenditure) of £8,825.01.**
- Whilst this is a "surplus", the reality is if we had a full season the club would have made a loss for the season (more pitches, ref fees, tournaments, etc) - however, given the overall financial position of the club this would have been "OK" for one year.
- Club income (excluding sponsorship for kit which is net nil as is used to pay for kit) was lower than previous years - as a result of no fundraising activities or bag pack - approx. (£3,700) lower than in 2018-19 which is the last "normal" season.
- Membership numbers were up slightly year on year: Total - 680; Split: Boys - 469 (up +17 vs prior year); Girls 211 (up +3 vs prior year).
- Overall bank position remains strong.

3. Looking ahead

- Our financial position in recent years has allowed us to continue to invest in more all-weather provision for training and matches - this is by far the most expensive cost for us as a club - however it does almost "guarantee" that training and matches take place each week for the children.
- Overall, we spent more on training/match day facilities than ever before and have secured season long contracts in place to use Ben Rhydding (girls/boys training/boys matches), Yarnbury (girls matches), GOALS Bradford (boys matches) as well as St Marys and Nethermoor which have always been utilised.
- This all-weather provision is more and more in demand - grass pitch quality and availability continues to decline in the region and the financial cost of improving grass vs laying down all weather pitches doesn't stack up - and with higher demand for all-weather pitches the price to hire continues to go up significantly.
- Cost increases have been visible for the last 4/5 years but we didn't change the membership fees, however we flagged last year that this would increase in season 21-22.
- The proposal is to increase fees from £125 to £135. This is an increase of 8%, however it is the first change in fees for 4 years and still means Guiseley Juniors is very good value vs other clubs - especially as in season 21-22 we will provide facilities from mid-August through to end of May (meeting our aim noted previously).
- The membership fee of £135 equates to a cost per week of £3.46 which is fantastic value - this covers all training, all matches, all league fees, all equipment, ref fees, tournaments and anything else required to run the club! Compared to other sports and social activities this compares favourably and provides the children with a great amount of fun and enjoyment we hope!

4. Specific support for season 21-22

- Despite the increased costs more generally and therefore the proposal to increase the membership fee, we are very aware this is a tough time right now.

- Therefore, coming out of Covid (hopefully!) we have committed to helping all teams and players - this will be in the form of a one-off allowance of £10 per registered player.
- This can be used by the manager of a team to put towards playing kit (given sponsorship may be harder to attract for now), or towards social events for the team, or any trophies that a team may wish to have.
- This can be used from May 2021 to Dec 2021 inclusive.

5. Help from managers

- The most important thing is to ensure membership forms are completed online and fees are paid early - this year will be later than usual given the current season has been extended.
- However, we need membership monies in by August 1st 2021. Whilst we appreciate this may be more difficult this year, we do need to have these paid so we can make financial commitments for the season ahead with confidence - as well as a league registration/player angle that the Secretary would consider.
- Kit rebate - please ensure that ALL kit is purchased from the club supplier, Pendle Sports and that orders are ALWAYS placed via the Guiseley Juniors "club shop". Prices are NOT inflated artificially, discount is applied at the final checkout and we are one of the biggest customers so benefit from a substantial rebate - this was around £1,600 this season, which is significant, so a big thank you to all managers as the improved compliance has really helped - thank you!
<https://www.guiseleyjuniors.co.uk/pendle-shop/>
- Equipment - Guiseley Junior teams should always have the required basic provision of balls, cones, medical bag and (where needed) respect barriers - do not hesitate to ask; however, please also consider requests sensibly - e.g. most teams use the same training balls for 2-3 years in terms of sizing, so please only ask to replace the ones that are needed to be replaced - just a couple of footballs per team can make a huge difference. If there is anything at match sites that is needed, please also link to the committee to ensure a safe and enjoyable match can take place.

In conclusion, a big thank you to all managers for what they do, thank you for your ongoing commitment in terms of collecting membership fees and spending sensibly - this has served us well over the last few years with some fantastic facilities and we remain in a secure position despite a very difficult time in a wider sense.

All the best,

Mark.